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E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/07/2011

TAGS: PREL MARR PL AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN: POLISH PRESIDENT FORMALLY APPROVES

DEPLOYMENT OF 1000 ADDITIONAL TROOPS

REF: WARSAW 2036

Classified By: Political Counselor Mary Curtin, reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

- 11. (C) During a previously scheduled meeting November 7, FM Fotyga informed Ambassador that President Kaczynski had formally approved the deployment of approximately additional Polish troops to Afghanistan in 2007. As reported reftel, DefMin Radek Sikorski announced in Washington that Poland would deploy up to 1050 total troops to Afghanistan by February 2007, to meet ISAF commitments as well as for Coalition SOF operations.
- 12. (C) According to media reports Kaczynski also announced the decision publicly November 7 during his visit to London, stating that the Polish contingent would be "increased from December 2006 by 1010, bringing the total number of soldiers and military employees to a maximum of 1200." This exact language appears in the Council of Ministers document sent to Kaczynski on November 8 for signature, which extends the Polish Afghanistan deployment for another year. ASHE